

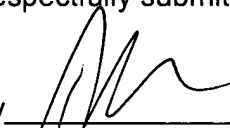
**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment prior to examination is respectfully requested. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-18, 52-70, 99-106, and 112-114 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. This Preliminary Amendment is requested to put the divisional application in substantially the same condition as its parent Application No. 09/842,021.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: January 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Ronald P. Kananen  
Registration No.: 24,104  
Attorney for Applicant

**RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC**  
1233 20<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. Suite 501  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Tel: (202) 955-3750  
Fax: (202) 955-3751  
Customer No. 23353